UDXF monitoring guide to

RUSSIAN
"community" radio stations
Voices from the tundra

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A Nenets reindeer herder in the Russian arctic
in contact with his wife at home in the village.
While monitoring this type of comms, one can hear almost
everything from "love you my dear, -see you in the spring" to
mom at home helping her son in the tundra with his schoolwork.
All very interesting fragments of nomadic everyday life.

Inside the traditional 'yurt', a semi-permanent tentlike stucture rather similar to the Sami 'lavvo'.
A Chukchi reindeer herder in contact with his brother at a distant winter camp.
His young son keep the handriven generator spinning for power to the radioset.
The rifle are always kept within arms length, in case of hungry wolfpacks coming near the camp.

Antenna arrangements at a wintercp. The frozen soil of the tundra is making it difficult to get a good earth connection, therefore dipole antennas are used.
The preferred antenna is a simple sloped horizontal dipole. As antenna tower is used two latched poles, leftover from the production of the 'yurt'.

Frequencies in use

Due to the nature of this type of radio communuications, one can not expect neither rigid radio discipline, nor the use of callsigns or scheduled transmission times. A lot of these qso's is also performed using local dialects and languages, besides Russian. The preffered mode seems to be AM, but expect also SSB and NB FM. A lot of the radiogear used is ex-Soviet mil, - and the powersupplies are mostly hand crancked generators, so technical malfunctions are quite common. Look out for voices from the tundra in the lower 3 MHz range. As a start, these frequencies are often used:

02980.0 03005.0 03017.0 03028.0 03062.0 03069.0 03079.0 03086.0 03097.7
03110.0 03121.0 03133.0 03160.0 03173.0 03213.0

Some suggested reading; http://rkomi.ru/en/left/fu_mir/

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